

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/630,757

Applicant(s)

JOSHI, MAYUR

Examiner

Khai M. Nguyen

Art Unit

2819

AW

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 07-31-2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-44.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 16 October 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 09-30-2003
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-44 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the best prior art (see the cited references) fails to teach or fairly suggest the claimed invention of claims 1-44.

As for claims 1-17 and 23-25, none of the prior art teaches/discloses a priority encoder that includes, among other unique features/components, the first circuitry and the second circuitry as set forth in claims 1-17, and 23-25.

As for claims 18-22, the prior art does not teach/suggest a priority encoding circuit that includes the static circuitry and dynamic circuitry of the claimed invention.

As for claim 26, the prior art does not disclose a circuit that comprises the lower level priority encoding circuits and the upper level priority encoding circuitry as set for in the claim.

As for claims 27-32, the best prior art (see the cited references) also does not disclose or suggest a method of performing priority encoding that includes, among others steps, in response to the subset signals, providing the priority signals, each priority signal indicating whether a respective input signal is asserted and has priority, at most one of the priority signal being asserted at a time, and each priority signal being provided in response to a non-redundant group of the subset signals.

As for claims 33-38 and 40, the prior art fails to teach/disclose an integrated circuit or a system that includes, among other components, a priority encoder, in

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response to input signals, providing priority signals indicating an input signal that is asserted and has priority, wherein the priority encoder comprises the first circuitry and the second circuitry as set for the above claims.

As for claim 39, the prior art does not teach/suggest a system that includes a priority encoder having a static circuitry and a dynamic circuitry of the claimed invention.

As for claims 41-44, none of the prior art disclose/teach or suggest a router which includes a priority encoding circuit that response to match signals, providing signals indicating a match signal that is asserted and has priority, the priority encoder asserting at most one of the priority signals at a time, wherein the priority encoder including the first tree-like/static circuitry and second tree-like/dynamic circuitry as set forth in the above claims. For the reasons above, claims 1-44 are allowed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact Information


3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Khai M. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-1809. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 to 4:30 M-F.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael J Tokar can be reached on 571-272-1812. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

KN
July 27, 2004


Michael Tokar
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2800